

## **WOMT Summary for April 10, 2012**

WOMT met and discussed the following:

The Smelt Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions was sufficient to protect longfin smelt. The Working Group will continue to monitor smelt salvage, adult and larval smelt survey data, and delta hydrological conditions and will reconvene April 16, 2012, at 10 am.

Currently as of April 10, 2012, the FWS and DFG deem that no additional actions are needed for protection of delta and longfin smelt.

DOSS advises WOMT and NMFS on the following: 1) for the remainder of the April 8–14 time period, DOSS advises to not adopt of the DWR/PWA proposed change to a target OMR of -3,500 cfs and therefore to continue implementing the OMR limit of -2,500 cfs as provided in the April 4, 2012, NMFS determination. Compliance will be measured using a 5-day running average that may be no more than 25% more negative than the target OMR [*i.e.* no more negative than -3,125 cfs], and 2) for the first experimental period of April 15–April 30, DOSS advises WOMT and NMFS to accept the DWR/PWA proposal to operate to an OMR limit of -3,500 cfs from April 15–30, unless the acoustically tagged steelhead exposure criterion, as defined in the tech memo, is exceeded. An OMR target of -3,500 cfs over this period is consistent with the operations proposed for April 15–30 in the tech memo (see Table 1 of the tech memo).

NMFS determines on April 12, 2012, that since the OMR flow of no more negative than -2,500 cfs for April 8-14, 2012, is consistent with the joint stipulation and associated technical memorandum, that it will avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of Central Valley steelhead. NMFS concurred with DOSS that the DWR/PWA proposal to operate to an OMR limit of -3,500 cfs from April 15-30,2012 (unless the acoustically tagged steelhead exposure criterion, as defined in the technical memorandum, is exceeded), is equivalent to the OMR values and criteria contained in the technical memorandum, and therefore, will be implemented as planned.